

OLD PICKENS SECTION IS AWAKE

Mr. Cary Finds Traces of the Past and Notes Present Improvements.

Old Pickens, June 22, 1919.
Editor Keowee Courier:
In looking up data for my history of Old Pickens I have had occasion to spend several days in this historic neighborhood, and whilst I have heretofore written much of the early days of Old Pickens, I deem it will not be amiss to tell of a few changes which have recently taken place here.

The large brick building on the Norton plantation, which is one of the oldest brick buildings in Oconee county, and was once the residence of Col. Miles M. Norton, back in the early days, has been, through the generosity of the Norton heirs, converted into a graded school building, and a fine school is there taught, is well patronized, and is of untold benefit to the surrounding country. The large tract of land on which it is situated has been divided into small tracts, cleared up and terraced; good houses have been built and rented to good, thrifty tenants, who make good crops and are contented, prosperous and happy.

The same spirit seems to pervade the whole community, and lands which a few years ago were considered of little value are now in demand at good prices, for sale or rent.

I hiked it for ten miles along the ridge road from Old Pickens to Jocassee, and was surprised to note the vast improvements that have been made in that section. Forty years ago there were only two or three houses on this road from the High Falls to Salem. Now one may travel the whole distance and hardly be out of sight of good dwellings and large fields cultivated in corn, wheat and rye, cotton and sorghum. The uncleared lands still have considerable pine and oak timber, while the native grasses furnish fine pasturage for cattle, sheep and hogs.

Warsaw School District is establishing, and will soon have in operation, a graded school near Stamp creek church, which speaks well for the community, and will no doubt be a success. I was told by people living on the ridge that within the last five years lands had increased in value from two to three hundred per cent.

The Messrs. Vaughn, Clark, Hawkins, Whites, Smith, Bowers, Hunnicutt and Barker, and others, live on this ridge and have made wonderful improvements. Verner Clark, near High Falls, in connection with his farm, operates a store and grist mill, and the Messrs. Hawkins are engaged in saw-milling as well as farming.

Mr. Vaughn, one of the best farmers in this section, told me that, properly managed, these ridge lands could be made to produce a bale of cotton per acre and corn, wheat, rye, sorghum, peas, melons, potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables grow equally as well.

The crops are fine and promising, the people healthy, prosperous and happy.

I saw two old-time milestones on the Jocassee road, such as your versatile correspondent, S. K. Dendy, alluded to in his recent article. One of them is marked "P. C. H. 4 M." and the other "P. C. H. 13 M." In the early establishment of public roads in this district each mile was indicated by one of these stones, which was of rock, (sometimes of wood), with "P. C. H." and the distance to the court house marked thereon.

Another great advantage to the traveler through a strange country was what we called "sign-boards." Wherever the roads forked, on an elevated post were nailed boards or plank with the name of the place to which the road led painted thereon.

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Old Pendleton District In the Confederacy.

Names and Facts Concerning Some of the Soldiers of the Confederacy Who Went to the War from the Old Pendleton District, and Now Rest in Cemeteries of this Section—Many Heroes Rest in Unmarked Graves.

Clemson College, June 23, 1919.
Editor Keowee Courier:

Enclosed you will find an essay which the John C. Calhoun Chapter, U. D. C., wishes you to publish in your paper. The writer of this essay won the medal which the chapter gives a cadet each year.

Very respectfully,
(Miss) Nannie Morrison,
President John C. Calhoun Chapter.

(Note.—In compiling the material for this paper the writer was forced to depend upon such information as was available from individuals possessing authentic knowledge of the subject, and from inscriptions on the grave-stones in the cemeteries mentioned in the paper. It will be noted that many names are given without any definite mention of the service performed by the individual named. In such cases persons who possess the desired information will perform a patriotic service by writing to the county papers the information they may possess.)

Just at this time we are welcoming the soldiers of the world war home with enthusiastic celebrations and immense praises. Justly are we paying this high tribute of respect to them for their bravery, sacrifices and sufferings; and probably more than anything else that they so cheerfully and willingly answered the call of their country with the utmost determination to see the principles for which they stood established throughout the world. However, let us remember that just a little more than fifty years ago the people of this famous and historic Old Pendleton District were welcoming their brave and heroic sons home from a war that has meant so much to all of us.

These brave boys had to return to homes that were much more stricken and torn by the horrors of war than the ones to which the returning soldiers of to-day are coming. Many of their homes had been almost completely destroyed. These Confederate veterans were equally as patriotic and loyal to their thoughts and beliefs of right as are any of the heroes of to-day, and they fought just as heroically and as sincerely for the cause.

The renowned and old district of Pendleton furnished some of the most notable and bravest leaders and soldiers of the war. Many of these noble sons left home and loved ones never to return. They made the supreme sacrifice on the field of battle for the cause. Others fought gallantly and persistently through storm and strife, and when it was all over, returned to their homes and gave freely and earnestly all their efforts toward the immense task of reconstruction. These eminent boys, though tired and worn from the laborious tasks of the war, did not settle down at home to the rest and quiet, but they busily set themselves to that huge task and worked as diligently at it as they had for the cause. But let us now turn to the

lives and deeds of some of these heroic sons of Pendleton.

Col. J. W. Livingston,

whose grave is in the cemetery at Old Stone Church, went into the army as captain of Company A, Orr's Regiment. In January, 1862, he was promoted to the rank of major. At the Second Battle of Manassas Col. Marshall and Lieut.-Col. Ledbetter were killed, and Major Livingston became colonel. Col. Livingston was severely wounded at Gaines's Mill. This wound so deranged his health that he had to resign in December, 1862, and return to his home.

At the beginning of the war, F. Whit Kilpatrick, colonel of the First South Carolina Regiment, raised a company of volunteers, but as they were not immediately needed, he joined Perrin's company, of Abbeville, as a private. He was a brave soldier and soon showed his deserving abilities. For gallantry in action at First Manassas and at other battles in 1861 he was promoted to a colonelcy. He and his command bravely followed Gen. Longstreet in his campaigns in Virginia. After his command was sent to Tennessee with Gen. Longstreet, Col. Kilpatrick was taken sick; but hearing in the night that a battle was expected, he left his sick bed and took command of his regiment. He met his death at Will's Valley. He was a brave and sympathetic officer, refusing the comforts his rank afforded and suffering the hardships of camp life with his men. He was buried at Old Stone Church.

David S. Lewis

was a member of the Palmetto Sharpshooters, of Brig.-Gen. Jenkins's Brigade. He volunteered at the age of 17, went to Virginia and rendered gallant service in the Battle of Seven Pines. He took typhoid fever soon after this battle and died in a hospital in Manchester, Va. His body was brought to Old Stone Church and laid to rest.

Emile Lewis,

also a member of the Palmetto Sharpshooters, was a very brave soldier and an excellent scout. He was one of Gen. Lee's principal scouts for obtaining valuable information. He often went through the enemy's lines and returned with important information. He was killed with an axe while attempting to take a deserter from the upper story of a house in Virginia.

Robert O. Lewis was a color sergeant. He was killed on Virginia soil.

First Lieut. John C. Cherry joined the army during the latter part of the war. He was first sent to Pocotaligo and was later transferred to Virginia, where he took an active part in some of the latter battles of the war.

Dr. O. M. Doyle went into the army as captain of a company in the Second South Carolina Rifles. He was later transferred to the medical department and made regimental surgeon.

J. S. Goodman was a Confederate soldier. He died at Clemson College after a life of honest service at that institution. He is buried in the cemetery of the Old Stone Church.

John W. Simpson belonged to Company C, Fourth Regiment of Cavalry, and served on the coast of South Carolina until 1864. From that time until the end of the war he served in Virginia.

Henry F. Dickson was captain of a cavalry company in the Confederate army.

Other Confederate Veterans who are buried in the cemetery at the memorable and historic Old

ous and courageous hero, Brig.-Gen. Barnard Elliott Bee, is familiar to every school-boy in South Carolina. Probably they should be more familiar with the life and deeds of this brave general. Every South Carolinian should know that he is buried in the cemetery at Pendleton, and that he was at one time a student at West Point. They should be familiar with the fact that he was the man who gave Jackson the name, "Stonewall." On the field of the sanguinary Battle of Manassas, July 21, 1861, Gen. Bee pointed to Jackson and said to his men, "See Jackson standing like a stone wall," and thus imparted that immortal name to the courageous soldier. Mortally wounded in this battle, Gen. Bee asked for the Pendleton boys to carry him off the field. Sergt. Robert Maxwell and

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

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